

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes December 30, 2020

Attendance: Chris Kelly, Dr. Margaret Adams, Officer Mike Buckley, Joe Borsellino, Diane Loud, Lianna Manos, Margaret Matthews, Dr. Oneida Fox Roye

The meeting was convened at 6:08 PM.

Joanna McBrine from the Dedham Historical Society was in attendance at the meeting. She shared that they are working on a strategic plan with the goal of being inclusive including the use of current events. Residents also have been encouraged to share their stories related to the local Black Lives Matter movement. She shared that there are many resources available and are committed to telling as many stories as possible.

There is also a group of multi-town efforts devoted to anti-racism efforts.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Virtual Celebration

The group decided on a title of the 4th Annual Dedham Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration in collaboration with Dedham Public Schools, Dedham Human Rights Commission, and Dedham TV.

We were not able to attend the businesses that have contributed in the past with Dedham TV. We will provide a recommendation that the audience visit these local businesses.

There are 4 students from Dedham Public Schools who will present a multi-lingual presentation on their version of "I Have a Dream." Lianna Manos will continue to work with Brenda Hagan from Dedham Public Schools to collect the final videos from the students.

Patricia Sanchez-Connolly will be in the studio on January 8th to record her portion of the keynote speech for the event. Chris Kelly has completed the introduction.

Dr. Fox Roye found a student to introduce the student essays. She believes the student recorded the introduction with Dedham TV. Dr. Fox Roye will follow up with Brenda Hagan to determine the number of student essays.

Diane Loud also recorded her generic introduction for the student art. Diane has not yet connected from Dedham Public Schools to determine the art submissions.

Margaret Matthews also taped her introduction for William Gould. There will also be an appeal to have town residents support the fund for the memorial.

All members who have students who are participating should send Joe Borsellino the names so that we can acknowledge them in the credits.

Philjay Solar is the last commissioner who needs to complete the test.

Donna Shervanian at Dedham TV also found a taping of Dr. King including a piece called "Time."

Publicity for Event

Chris Kelly will reach out again to Dedham Times to see if they would do a story on the virtual event. Chris Kelly will also create a Facebook event. Each member of the HRC will distribute the flyer to each of their constituents. Dr. Fox Roye and Joe Borsellino will share the information with the superintendent of schools to distribute the information via his newsletter.

Joe Borsellino shared that he reached out to Nancy Baker to post the two open positions. Council of Aging has two candidates who are interested in the open position. They will vote on the two candidates at their next meeting.

Dedham TV

Chris Kelly shared two groups, Power of Community and also Dedham Food Pantry, that could be showcased for the next taping on Dedham TV for the theme of neighbors helping neighbors. Michael Buckley will ask someone from Dedham Food Pantry. Chris Kelly will reach out to the Power of Community coordinator. Margaret Matthews will reach out to someone from the COVID Relief to see if they would be interested.

Meeting Dates

Meetings going forward will be held on the third Wednesday of the month.

Racism Townwide Discussion

The format will include multiple panels with town representatives. The planning group met once and plans to meet next week. The group discussed creation of shared commitments so that meetings can have an outcome. Dr. Fox Roye shared that the first session would be for the creation of the commitments. The group had a discussion on possible format. The purpose of the event is to help create town wide anti-racism commitments.

Meeting minutes for December 7th, 2020 were approved.

The Human Rights Commission adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Future meeting dates on the third Wednesday of the month.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Margaret Adams, Clerk Human Rights Commission